Saskatchewan
Ministry of
Agriculture

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All stated cattle prices are based on the weekly Canfax Market Outlook and Summary.
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Cattle Market Update

For the Week Ending October 18, 2013

All prices are quoted in Canadian dollars per hundredweight ($/cwt) unless otherwise stated.

Feeder Cattle

Steers

	Range	Average	Change from last week
300-400	175-211	190.10	+1.85
400-500	168-192	179.70	+4.26
500-600	154-179	165.92	+2.50
600-700	147-169	158.25	+3.12
700-800	140-160	148.80	-0.22
800-900	135-150	141.81	-2.49
900+	131-140	136.63	-1.20

Heifers

	Range	Average	Change from last week
300-400	154-176	160.70	+2.20
400-500	138-168	152.43	+3.86
500-600	133-154	142.13	+1.03
600-700	129-145	136.25	+1.08
700-800	126-137	131.10	-2.15
800+	122-138	130.46	+1.04

Source: Canfax.
Note: Prices are determined from Saskatchewan auction marts' reports of sale results from Thursday of the previous week to Thursday of the current week.

Canfax reported that a total of 15,281 head of cattle were sold in Saskatchewan this week, down slightly from 15,480 head marketed the previous week.

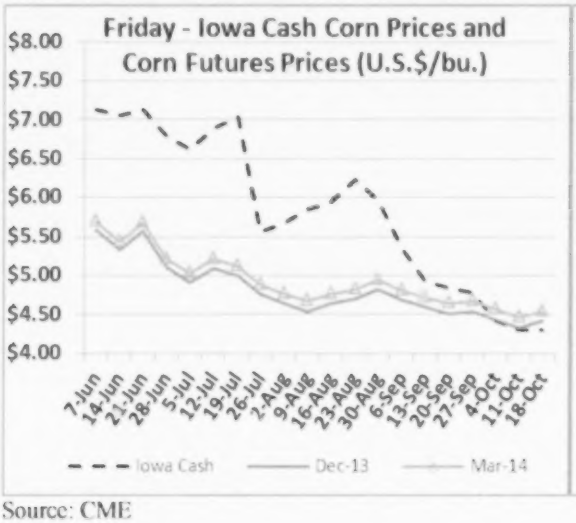
Feeder cattle prices were mostly higher over the week except for some losses in the mid-to-heavier weight feeder cattle categories. Price ranges overall widened from the previous week. Average prices for feeder steers ranged from $2.49 per cwt lower to $4.26 per cwt higher over the week. The feeder steers in the 400-500 lb. weight category had the biggest gains from the previous week increasing $4.26 per cwt. There were price gains in all feeder steer categories below 700 lb. while there were losses in all categories over 700 lb. with the 800-900 lb. weight category losing the most at $2.49 per cwt.

Feeder heifer prices were mostly higher over the week. Feeder heifer prices ranged from $2.15 per cwt lower to $3.86 per cwt higher. The 400-500 lb. weight category increased the most at $3.86 per cwt. The only weight category that had losses over the week was the 700-800 lb. weight category losing just over $2 per cwt.

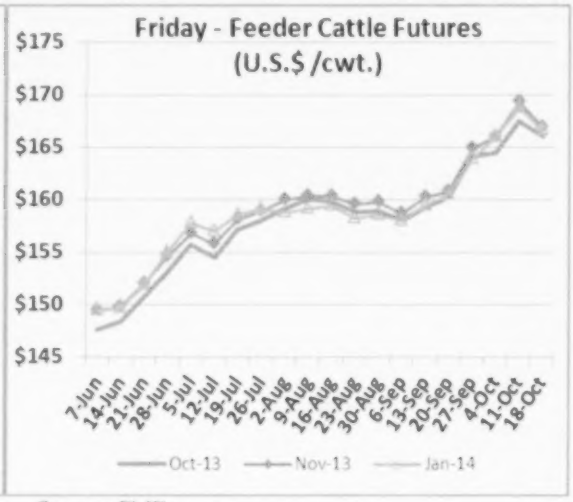
The Saskatchewan 750 lb. feeder steer basis compared to the October 17, 2013 U.S. feeder cattle index was not available due to the recent United States federal government shutdown. While many agriculture statistics have resumed collection, the feeder cattle index was not yet available.

Feeder cattle futures prices were lower over the week with the October to January contracts decreasing between US$1.400 per cwt and US$2.425 per cwt, week-over-week. The October feeder contract settled at US$166.075 per cwt while the January contract settled the week at US$166.600 per cwt. Higher corn futures prices over the week helped push feeder cattle futures prices lower.

Cash corn prices were overall steady while corn futures were higher over the week. The Iowa cash price declined one cent to close Friday at US$4.29 per bushel, while the December corn futures contract increased about 8 cents to close the week at US$4.41 per bushel.



Source: CME



Source: CME

Live cattle futures prices were mixed. The October to February contracts ranged from US$0.450 per cwt lower to US$1.075 per cwt higher. The October contract settled at US$129.875 per cwt while the February contract settled the week at US$133.875 per cwt.

Fed and Non-fed Cattle

	October 18	October 11	Change
Cows (Alberta)			
D1,2 Live	76.79	78.00	-1.21
D3 Live	68.64	69.83	-1.19
Rail	149-154	149-154	0.00

Source: Canfax.

Prices for liveweight, non-fed cattle in Alberta were lower from the previous week with D1,2 slaughter cows decreasing $1.21 per cwt to average $76.79 per cwt, while D3 slaughter cows decreased $1.19 per cwt to average $68.64 per cwt, from last week.

Fed cattle prices in Western Canada were higher over the week. Fed steers in Alberta were reported to average $121.38 per cwt, up $2.59 per cwt from $118.79 per cwt the previous week.

Note: Cow-calf producers in Saskatchewan are reminded to check with their local market operators regarding current market conditions for non-fed cattle. Producers are also reminded that old, thin cows have a very low market value. The non-fed prices quoted each week do not represent the market price for these animals. As an alternative to transporting these animals, you may want to check with your local veterinarian or the nearest Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) office to see if these animals are eligible for testing as part of the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) surveillance program. Producers receive $75 from the CFIA for each eligible sample submitted. The goal of this program is to prove that the BSE control measures implemented in Canada are working.

Friday Price Information

Product		This Week (October 18)	Week of: (October 11)
Canadian Dollar (closing rate US$)		.9714	.9658
U.S. Cash Cattle			
Thurs. Feeder Cattle (FC) Index (US$ per cwt)		NA	NA
Seven-day Weighted Average FC Index Wt. (lb.)		NA	NA
Live Fed 5-area Steer Price (US$ per cwt)		NA	NA
Feed Grains			
Barley	Lethbridge ($/tonne)	184.00	182.00
	($ per bu.)	4.01	3.96
Corn	Iowa State Average (CDN$/tonne)*	173.86	175.28
	(US$ per bu.)	4.29	4.30
	Omaha, NE (CDN$/tonne)*	179.94	NA
	(US$ per bu.)	4.44	NA
Futures			
	December Corn (US$ per bu.)	4.41½	4.33¼
	March Corn (US$ per bu.)	4.54	4.46¼
	October Live Cattle (US$ per cwt)	129.875	128.800
	December Live Cattle (US$ per cwt)	132.025	132.475
	October Feeder Cattle (US$ per cwt)	166.075	167.475
	January Feeder Cattle (US$ per cwt)	166.600	168.750

Sources: Bank of Canada, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), ICE Futures Canada and USDA Livestock & Grain Market News

* conversion to CDN$ is based on Friday's CDN$ closing rate

For more information contact: **Brad Marceniuk, PAg**
Livestock Economist
306-933-5098
brad.marceniuk@gov.sk.ca